

representation, and corrupt political
system must pass away, I am rather in-
clined to think it unwise to spend much noble
and invaluable effort, in the attempt to procure a
vote, or an election to Congress. This feeling has
made me somewhat reserved in my action towards
the Woman's Convention - I need not tell you how
heartily I accept their principles as mine - words
would only be weak. But I felt that if I went to
Worcester, I must go with my whole soul, and
give no lukewarm praise - this I could not
now, conscientiously do, therefore I staid quietly
away. I do not want however to discuss this
matter now - it would take me too long, for I
should have to explain to you all the difficulties ex-
periences, of my medical career, which guide me
in my judgement of the political one. I wanted
simply to let you feel, that my staying away
from the Convention, was from no lack of sym-
pathy, honor, or deep interest in the movement.

Now, to my business - I find myself here
in New York in a new position, without the
support of professional friends, without that
centre which every young physician has in the
old institutions - exciting more curiosity than

an Institution for the reception of women afflicted with various chronic diseases, and having them completely under my care, I shall be able to use the various agents in which I have faith, to the best advantage. Now I have at present no means to do so, at my disposal - but so fully am I convinced that this would prove a grand first step in woman's practice, that I mean to make the means - I shall endeavour to procure a pleasant country seat, in a healthy situation, with a cheerful attractive neighborhood (near our beautiful North River if possible) within an easy distance of town - now I want to make my Sanatorium, a centre of healthy spiritual as well as material influence - I shall want the women who come to me to depart better in every way, and to convey with them to the South & the West & all sections of our land lasting impressions of good. Of course the special medical department will be my own immediate care, and all the amusements, as swimming, shooting, riding, singing, &c I shall generally direct - I shall engage lecturers occasionally from New York, & employ numerous other mental tonics or sedatives &c - but to carry out my thought fully I must find a spiritual physician to aid me

any other feeling in the Women, for they wait
to be told whether they shall respect my profession
as services or not - and more than this, with
the firm conviction that the old system of drugging
is, on the whole, more injurious than beneficial,
and that only in the minority of Cases, can I by
that means cure disease - The heresies of medi-
cine do not aid me - they are developing valuable,
but partial truths. I am in the position in
which many women will soon find themselves,
when they have passed through the comparatively
easy course of preliminary study, & have the
- enormous difficulties of practice & prejudice
to contend with. Now it is essential for the
welfare of my undertaking, that the practice of
the first acknowledged Woman physician, should
be eminently successful - I must cure disease
more surely than my brethren - for this pur-
pose, I must call in agents which they neglect,
but in which I have unbounded faith - air
food, diet, exercise, & mental influences, must
aid me. I want much to introduce into practice,
the active & passive movements of Ling (Kinesio-
pathy) which will prove valuable aids to the physician -
It therefore seems to me clear, that I must open

and apply these general means specially - a woman (I think) of large sympathies, a magnet in nature, who will understand the spiritual wants of every patient, and have the desire & the skill to apply the remedy - of course she must have a nominal material office, but her real employment - one of infinite value - would be spiritual direction.

Now I want you, dear Miss Parsons, if you feel any interest in my plan, to hear it in mind, and send me word, if you can find my preach - I have faith in your insight, so I apply to you. I shall want also an active trustworthy house keeper, but that will be easier to find. I think such an institution as I meditate might be made very beautiful - I think also that it would be very successful. I shall try & be ready to open it in March. I should advertise widely in northern & - even papers. I should not expect to make much money for myself - I should wish to perfect my establishment, pay my assistants liberally, and then be able to organize many other institutions that I have in my head - For my spiritual physician, if I can

find her (or him if it should chance to be
a man) of course I should not wish to
limit such services by a salary - if she shared
my thought & my enthusiasm, she would be
partner, and though the pecuniary relations
should be definite, they should be equal.

I think it will be wise, not to mention my
scheme at present - I have much to do,
before it will be on a substantial basis in
the estimation of people generally - but I
confide it to you, because I am sure you will
aid me by your judgement if you can.

Do not attempt to write to me - let me professionally
forbid it - I will let you know if I succeed in
my effort - and if you meet with my partner,
you will send me a few words only. Much

should like to see you - I would ask you
many questions - perhaps I could cure
you! Will you be one of my patients
next year?

Yesterday I saw our Hungarian hero. I
could not gaze at him without tears.

Ever your friend
Elizabeth Blackwell.

NEW YORK. Dec 7th.

My dear Miss Parsons,

Thank you for the kind greeting which you sent me in my sister's letter, and all the good wishes which I hope may be realized - I have felt the truth of your sympathies in the past, I shall rely upon it in the future, and I want now to confer with you, upon a project of mine, which I think may be made very useful in a wide sense, and therefore I bring it before you.

First however, let me say a few words with regard to the Woman's Convention - I honour that Convention deeply, and I am truly delighted to see the wide respect which it has gained, but my own mind is not fully made up, as to the wisdom of Woman's entering into political action at present. If I believed that the present system of society were permanent, I should deem and undoubtedly, that every thing belonging to human interest, be thrown freely open to all; but being from deep conviction, an "Associationist", and knowing that the present inefficient